

CROSSSECTION

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• Special points of interest:

- Valuable information for managing your woodlot.
- Our Annual Meeting is coming up – reserve your place now!
- Riverside H.S. students score big at the State Environment!
- Help clean up Arcola Creek as part of Coastweeks 2000.
- Come visit our display at the Lake County Fair!

MANAGING YOUR SUBURBAN FOREST

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF YOUR FOREST

The Management Plan

What forest products and amenities do you wish to obtain from your forested land or woodlot? As a landowner, your objectives can be accomplished through a forest management plan. The objectives of many Lake County forest owners may be geared toward increased wildlife habitat, recreation, and aesthetics. However, other objectives may include sources of income from timber harvest, tax breaks, soil and water conservation, and/or the self-satisfaction that comes from sound land stewardship.

In order to accomplish your goals, a forest management plan should be developed which identifies your objectives. Forestry management is a process that integrates forest science and management practices with economic needs. Inventory of resources, development and implementation of man-

agement strategies with periodic re-evaluation of the management plan enables landowners to reach their objectives.

Landowners that wish to explore the value of their woodlot or forested acreage should consider contacting the area Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry *Service Forester* for assistance. Also, the area ODNR Division of Wildlife *Private Lands Biologist* can evaluate your woodlot for wildlife habitat and production. Landowners considering a timber harvest may want to contact a private forestry consultant who can assess the value of your standing timber before a sale is conducted. In many cases in Ohio, landowners are unaware of the true value of their timber and often take the first price that is offered.

(Continued on page 2)

ADDITIONAL FORESTED LAND PRESERVED IN THE GRAND RIVER WATERSHED

Julia Parker enrolled 23 acres of streamside forested property in Leroy Township into a conservation easement that will forever preserve her forested land. In a joint effort between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Lake Metroparks, land along a tributary of Paine Creek will remain protected through the Wetland Reserve Program. The property is adjacent to Hell Hollow Park.

The conservation easement allows Ms. Parker to continue use of the property including its woodland resources while receiving compensation for entering into the conservation easement. John Niedzialek of NRCS states that easements are flexible documents geared towards the landowners needs. In this case, Ms. Parker can continue to actively manage her woodlot including thinning and harvesting under a timber management plan.

Such compatible uses allow landowners like Ms.

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ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO WOODLOT OWNERS

If you are a woodlot owner and have questions or concerns about how to manage your property, the following governmental agencies may be of some assistance.

The Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry provides service forestry programs to private landowners. Service foresters can assist in reforestation, forest management, timber harvesting and environmental forestry.

The Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources – Division of Wildlife provides a Private Lands Wildlife Management Program for private landowners who wish to manage their lands for wildlife habitat. Private Lands Biologists can provide a multitude of educational information concerning wildlife habitat management as well as provide sources for plant and food plot materials.

The Ohio State University Extension provides forestry educational programs through OSU Extension Factsheets, annual workshops and field day demonstrations.

The Farm Services Agency, an agency of the USDA, may provide cost-sharing to landowners who carry out conservation practices such as tree planting and timber stand improvement in the area of forestry.

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS/USDA) and County Soil and Water Conservation Districts work in cooperation to provide technical assistance to landowners wishing to develop conservation practices on their land. Soils information/maps, watershed information and assistance with timber harvest Best Management Practices are a few of the services these agencies can provide.

If you wish to learn more about the natural resources associated with your woodlot, consider contacting these agencies for assistance or services.

OHIO'S INVASIVE NON-NATIVE PLANTS

There are approximately 3,000 species of plants known to occur in the wild in Ohio. About 75% are native or have occurred in Ohio before the time of substantial European settlement, around 1750. The other 25%, around 700 to 800 species, are not native to Ohio, and have been introduced from other states or countries. Most of these species never stray far from where they are introduced, yet some become very invasive and displace native plants in woodlands, wetlands, prairies, and other natural areas. Non-native plants have been introduced for erosion control, horticulture, forage crops, and

wildlife food. Many have been introduced by accident!

Without natural predators or controls, invasive non-native plants are able to spread quickly and crowd out native plants. In Ohio, several non-native plants are invading woodlands and displacing native spring wildflowers. Other non-native plants are impacting our wetlands by creating monocultures. Native plant diversity is important for wildlife habitat, as many animals depend on a variety of native plants for food and cover.

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...FUTURE OF YOUR FOREST

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Tax Reduction Programs

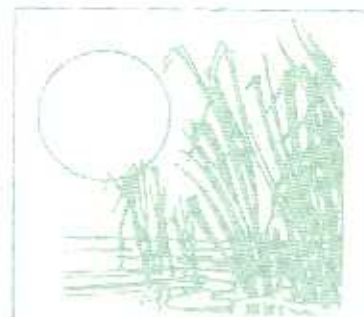
Ohio's forest landowners also have two real estate tax reduction programs available to them. The Ohio Forest Tax Law provides a 50% real estate tax reduction on forest land that is managed for the purpose of timber production. The Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) program reduces real estate tax values based on the production capacity of the soil on the property.

Each program requires 10 acres of land, an application fee and the development of a management plan.

For more information on these topics contact your area Service Forester at 440-632-5299, the SWCD office, or try this web site for more information on tax laws, landowner assistance, and contact info. for your area Service Forester:
www.hcs.ohio-state.edu/ODNR/Landownerasst/tax.htm

YOU'RE INVITED...

TO OUR 54TH ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 28TH



held at DeRubertis Party Center
6521 North Ridge Rd., Madison, Ohio 44057

AGENDA:

6-7	Social Hour
7:00	Dinner
7:45 PM	Business meeting
	Welcome
	Nomination Report
	Election Procedures
8:00 PM	Special Presentation: Lake County Wildlife
	featuring: Gary Meszaros, Wildlife Photographer
9:00	Door prize extravaganza

Candidates: Paul Belanger, Madison, *Incumbent*
Robert Zeitz, Eastlake, *Incumbent*
Stephanie Beres, Concord Twp.

Official election for District Supervisor conducted by Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Voters must be Lake County residents or landowners and 18 years or older.

RESERVATIONS: DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 21ST

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

_____ # of guests Names of guests: _____

Tickets \$17/person and will be held at the registration table

Make checks payable to: Lake SWCD, 125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

Check enclosed \$ _____

WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

Now you can be a winner with every newsletter by playing "Who Wants to be a Conservationist?" - the new feature of Lake SWCD's newsletter. Test your own knowledge of environmental issues, and then quiz classmates, colleagues, fellow employees, and your family! Look for the correct answers inside this newsletter!

1. Fairport Harbor is located at the mouth of what river?
A. Grand River B. Ohio River
C. Mississippi River D. Chagrin River
2. The land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, lake, or ocean is known as what?
A. Watershed B. Pipe
C. Valley D. Farm
3. What is the smallest county (by area) in Ohio?
A. Cuyahoga B. Ottawa
C. Lake D. Erie
4. All of these are invasive plants species in Ohio with the exception of what?
A. Purple Loosestrife
B. Wild Celery
C. Common Reed Grass (*Phragmites*)
D. Multiflora Rose
5. All of the following waterways are designated as Scenic Rivers in Ohio with the exception of what?
A. Maumee River
B. Upper Cuyahoga River
C. Little Beaver Creek
D. Scioto River
6. What is the state tree of Ohio?
A. Sugar Maple B. American Elm
C. Buckeye D. Flowering Dogwood
7. Ohio is second in the nation to California in percentage loss of what?
A. Forest Land B. Wetlands
C. Bald Eagles D. Glaciers
8. What aquatic insect emerges in large quantities from western Lake Erie during the summer and has recently made a comeback due to improved water quality?
A. Lightning Bug B. Midge
C. Dragonfly D. Mayfly
9. The least bittern, piping plover, and dark-eyed junco are all examples of what?
A. Endangered bird species in Ohio
B. Ohio wildflowers
C. Nicknames of early pioneers
D. Great Lakes freighters
10. What Iroquois name translates to 'fine or good river' in English?
A. Chagrin B. Geauga
C. Arcola D. Ohio

EDUCATION NEWS

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE IN OHIO ENVIROTHON

Students from Riverside High School, Painesville Twp., competed in the Ohio Envirothon at Denison University (Granville) and Dawes Arboretum, in Licking County, June 11-13. The Envirothon is sponsored by the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

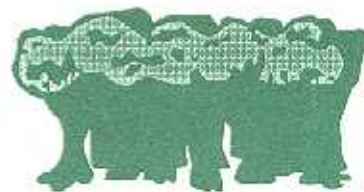
The Envirothon is an outdoor academic competition in which teams of high school students test their knowledge of soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatic ecology and current environmental issues. The Riverside team earned the opportunity to compete in the state-level Envirothon by placing in the "top-four" in their respective Area Envirothons. Congratulations to the Riverside team which placed 6th in the state of Ohio!



The Riverside High School Envirothon Team: (left to right) Carol J. Fleck-Advisor, Jeff Sobieraj, Travis Orient-Captain, Stephanie Lawson, Heather Hiller, Devon Monnens.

STUDENTS GO TO FORESTRY CAMP

Three area high school students were awarded full scholarships to attend Forestry Camp this summer, which was held the week of June 11th-16th at Camp Muskingham. The scholarships were awarded to Matthew Blanock of Riverside High School, Kelly Sue Morse of T.W. Harvey High School, and Jason Warren of Perry High School. All three students are active conservationists and participants in their schools' environmental organizations



The outdoor workshop, which is conducted by the Ohio Forestry Association, covers tree identification, ecology, and forest products, as well as offering recreational activities for campers. Congratulations scholarship recipients!

FOR THE SERIOUS WOODLOT OWNER!

Are you managing your woodlands for a timber harvest, wildlife habitat improvements, or production of other forest products? If so, you may be interested in the Ohio Woodland Steward Program sponsored by the Ohio Tree Farm Committee in cooperation with OSU Extension and the ODNR Division of Forestry.

The Ohio Woodland Steward Program provides 25 hours of intensive training in woodland management. The program is designed to provide woodland owners with the skills and information to help them better manage their woodlands and encourage others to do likewise. The registration fee is \$60 and includes refreshments and resource materials. Participants who complete the program will receive a Certificate of Completion, an Ohio Woodland Owner Notebook, and other items of recognition.

...OHIO'S NON-NATIVE PLANTS

(Continued from page 2)

Here are the common names for the most invasive non-native plant species in Ohio:

- Japanese Honeysuckle
- Autumn Olive
- Buckthorns
- Purple Loosestrife
- Common Reed
- Japanese Knotweed
- Bush Honeysuckles
- Reed Canary Grass
- Garlic Mustard
- Multiflora Rose

...FORESTED LAND PRESERVED

(Continued from page 1)

Parker to continue their status on real estate tax programs such as the Ohio Forest Tax Reduction Program and Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) Program.

Ms. Parker noted "the Wetland Reserve Program enables us to preserve these vital areas of God's

Workshop dates and registration information. Both workshops consist of three all-day sessions, starting at 8:30 A.M. Each program includes two field trips.

September 1, 8, & 15 in Urbana, Ohio

(Champaign County) - Interested landowners are encouraged to register before August 25, 2000. For more info. contact Barry Ward, OSU Extension, Champaign County at (937) 652-2204 or Kathy Smith, ODNR Forestry at (937) 484-1544.

October 4, 5, & 6 in Caldwell, Ohio (Perry County)

- Interested landowners are encouraged to register before September 27, 2000. For more info. contact Edward Smith at (740) 732-2381 or Jeff McCutcheon at (740) 743-1602.

For additional information about invasive species of plants and how to control them, contact the Lake SWCD at 350-2730, or the Ohio Division of Natural Areas & Preserves at (614) 265-6468.

See our Calendar of Events on the back page of this newsletter for dates and contact information regarding upcoming workshops about invasive non-native Ohio plants.

beautiful world for the use and enjoyment of future generations. Conservation is a concern we must act upon now."

To find out if you qualify for conservation easements through the Wetland Reserve Program, contact John Niedzialek at 440-350-2034.



ARCOLA CREEK CLEANUP

The Lake SWCD is organizing an Arcola Creek cleanup on Saturday, September 9th as part of Ohio's Coastweeks 2000. Coastweeks is a celebration of Ohio's greatest natural resource - Lake Erie and its shoreline. This year's theme is "I Can Help Lake Erie," which encourages Ohioans to be part of the solution, not the pollution that finds its way into the lake. For more information on the Arcola cleanup and ways you can become involved, please call Ken Freeman (350-2032) at the Lake SWCD office.

Backpage Notes



The Lake County Fair



Come visit our display at the **Lake County Fair** and learn more about Woodlot Management! We'll have information, brochures, services we offer, and even some activities for children! The dates of the fair are **August 15-20**. Hope to see you there!

We will be taking orders for the **DISTRICT TREE SALE** in our next newsletter, the Winter Issue! Start thinking about what **TREES** you are interested in purchasing, and keep your eyes open for our next issue!

Calendar of Events

Arcola Creek Cleanup: September 9 (See Pg. 5 for contact information)

Annual Meeting: September 28
DeRubertis Party Center, Madison

Invasive Plants Workshop: August 10, August 15, September 12, September 26, October 12
(Contact Division of Natural Areas & Preserves for registration and more info. - 614-265-6468)

Woodland Steward Program: September 1, 8 & 15 OR October 4, 5, & 6 (See Pg. 5 for contact information)

Lake County Soil & Water
Conservation District
125 East Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

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LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

•440-350-2730 (main number) •FAX 440-350-2601

For Dial Direct/Voice Mail, see office staff listings below

Toll-free •298-3334 ext. 2730 Madison/Perry

•918-2730 Cleveland/Western Lake County

•1-800-899-LAKE outside Lake County only

•E-mail: reach any staff member: office@soil.co.lake.oh.us

•web site: <http://soil.co.lake.oh.us>

PAM BROWN, District Secretary/Treasurer	350-2730
DAN DONALDSON, Program Administrator	350-2030
KEN FREEMAN, Urban Stream Specialist	350-2032
AMY KNESELY, Education Coordinator	350-2033
JOHN NIEDZIALEK, NRCS, USDA	350-2034
MATTHEW SCHARVER, Resource Protection Tech.	350-2031

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MEMBER OF:

•American Farmland Trust •Lake County Farm Bureau
•Nursery Growers of Lake County, Inc.
•National Association of Conservation Districts
•Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age

The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings held the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the Plain Dealer and News-Herald. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.

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